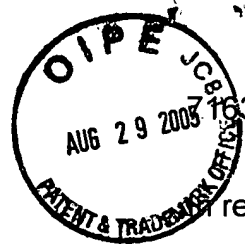


JRW



1632 US 01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of:

Lavoie

Serial No.: 10/743,624

Group Art Unit: 1625

Filed: April 22, 2004

Examiner: Taylor V. Oh

For: LIQUID PHASE OXIDATION OF P-XYLENE TO TEREPHTHALIC ACID IN
THE PRESENCE OF A CATALYST SYSTEM CONTAINING NICKEL,
MANGANESE, AND BROMINE ATOMS

Commissioner for Patents

Mail Stop Amendment

P. O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

In response to the Restriction Election Requirement in the Office Action mailed July 25, 2005, Applicants respectfully request examination of claims 1-21 in Group I, drawn to a process for the oxidation of paraxylene to terephthalic acid. This election is made without traverse.

An amendment to the claims is found on page 2.